

OREGON TUALATIN VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB



Next Meeting November 9

1988

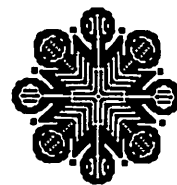
Lorna Campbell, KA7RFD, Editor



OTVARC Christmas Party



Saturday, December 3
6:30 PM



St. Bartholomews Episcopal Church
11265 SW Cabot, Beaverton

PRIZE RAFFLES

LADIES PRIZES

Pot Luck

Bring your favorite finger foods - hot or cold - savory or sweet. For the non-catering types, chips and dips, rolls, cookies or even KFC are very acceptable items.

BYOB

Mark your bottle with your call sign please.

The club furnishes coffee, punch, mixers, ice, paper plates and eating utensils.

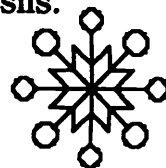
White Elephant Gift Exchange

Boys bring boy type objects and girls bring girl type objects, wrapped.

A white elephant is an object no longer of value to its owner but of value to others.

If you have any questions or if you would still like to volunteer to assist with decorations, set-up, take-down or hosting, please call Bobbi at 645-4188.

Songs Performed By THE NOTABLES



New Members Column

Kathy, KB7DNK

We have two new members this month: Earl Hooke, KE7XK and Don Kinney, WA7JRT.

Earl first got interested in Ham Radio 40 years ago in High School. He obtained his license in 1984. Earl's favorite band is 20 meters. Some of Earl's hobbies are fishing, camping and photography. Earl really likes doing public service events on 2-meters. His favorite thing about Ham Radio is the people he meets.

Don was always interested in Ham Radio. He got his license in 1968 but has been inactive in Ham Radio until three weeks ago. He really likes slow scan TV and RTTY. His favorite band is 40-meters. Don's hobbies include taking care of his horses, camping, flying his radio controlled planes, sailing his sail boat and scuba diving. Don's favorite thing about Ham Radio is talking to all the people he meets.

Be sure to say "Hello" to Don and Earl at the next club meeting!

November Program

John, K7SHC

John, K7SHC KD7AM, Yoshio Abe will be our featured speaker at the November meeting. With the 10 meter and 15 meter bands opening up, Yoshio will talk about QSOs with our Japanese friends and what to expect when making contacts with Japan. He's also willing to try to teach us a few words of Japanese.

This promises to be a really interesting evening.

Don't forget that the November meeting will be your last chance to make nominations from the floor for OTVARC officers. Please be sure that your nominee is willing to run

October Dine Out

About 40 members attended a very pleasant dinner at the New York Steak House on October 22. Many thanks to our social committee of Pat, KA7UFG; Marvel, KA7TZT and Bobbi for arranging this fun evening.

Thank You

Thanks so much to the club for the Commodore 64 so I could at least get back on the Dr. DX "air". It's kind of like the tail wagging the dog...having a program so getting a computer on which to run it.

At any rate thank you OTVARC. Eventually I may even work Dr. DX enough so I can get my code speed sufficient to worry about my extra (I did buy a license manual yesterday, with appropriate credit to OTVARC).

As to my house situation, the burned portions (about 2/3rds) are being torn down and new sections built up. It is the builder's projection that we will be back in by mid-December.

We are currently renting a place about 2,000 feet away on 32nd Avenue. I can see the tower at my burned place but I think the coax run would use up all the RF. I do have an 80 meter dipole up and am about to get a 14 AVQ vertical on the air too.

Thanks again, Greg Milnes, W7AGQ

Heard Around The Club

Lorna, KA7RFD

I am sorry to report that Ron Mayer, K7BT, at the time of writing, is in the Progressive Care Unit at Kaiser, Sunnyside Hospital. He collapsed on the evening of October 23, drove himself to the hospital and then collapsed again. Reports are that his heart stopped at 4AM the next morning and he had a pace maker installed. No visitors at this time except immediate family, but cards would be welcome to his home address.

Chuck, N7DZA back from a trip to the Summer Olympics in Seoul.

Don Johnson, W6AAQ, a member from California, is now into the 3rd printing of his book "The Best of HF Mobileering". His name and call also appears on the title page of the 15th Edition of The ARRL Antenna Book.

The OTVARC NEWSLETTER is published monthly by the Oregon Tualatin Valley Amateur Radio Club, Inc. The opinions, views and recommendations of its contributors are not necessarily those of the Club, its officers, advertisers or Newsletter Committee.

Articles may be submitted to: Lorna Cambell, KA7RFD, Editor, 9890 S.W. Inglewood, Portland, Oregon 97225.

Cutoff date for all newsletter material is the 20th of the preceding month.

Dues for OTVARC membership are \$10.00 per year and are pre-paid quarterly. There is a one-time initiation fee of \$2.00. Meetings are held on the second Wednesday of each month at the Beaverton Elks Lodge, 3500 S.W. 104th Avenue and start at 7PM. A buffet dinner is served at 6:15PM.

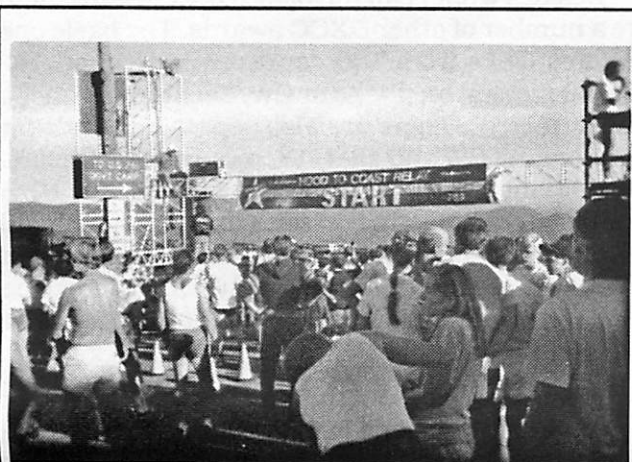
All correspondence other than for this newsletter should be sent to: Oregon Tualatin Valley Amateur Radio Club, Post Office Box 25545, Portland, Oregon 97225-0545.

Public Service

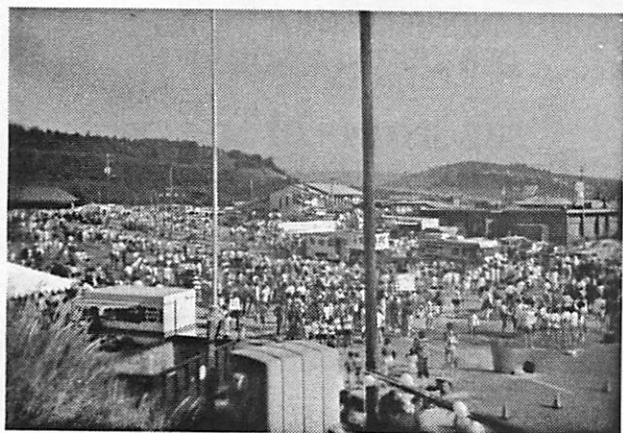
Randy, KZ7T

Sorry I missed the report last month but there isn't much this month so I will write about last month this month and a little about this month and next month, but last month this month first!

Our biggest Public Service event is over for the year and that was the Hood to Coast run. There were 44 hams who helped. They worked 575 hours and drove 3,575 miles.



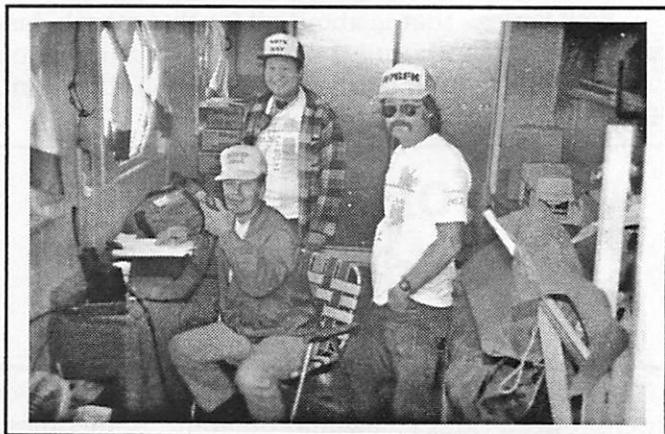
Start And Finish Of Hood To Coast



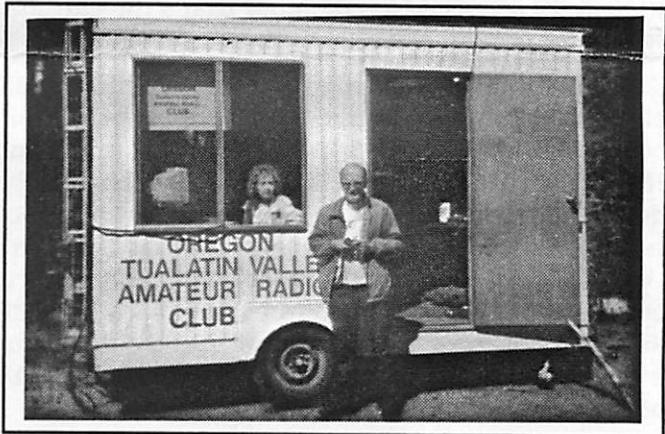
I would normally just list the OTVARC hams but I will list all this time. Terry, WB7CHK; JIM, KB7ADH; Ken, N7KHV; Bill, KD7TX; Don, KE7SP; Nick, N7ECP; Randall, WA7AWJ; Brian, KB7UY; David, KA7SYG; Gene, N7GFA; Larry, KA7SIL; Donna, KB7ATY; Dick, N7ILI; Bill, N7JQH; Ken, N7KHX; Archie, WT7A; Pete, WB4TVM; Buck, N7ILB; Bill, N7DVF; John; KA7FAK; Ed, N7ILJ; Roy, N7DUJ; Elaine, KB7ANT; Bill, WC7P; Kathryn, KA7UMB; Bob, KB7CGC; Larry, K7YBZ; Bob, KV7F; Joe, W7VBH; Ken, N7JAS; Walter,

OTVARC NOVEMBER 88

KA7RRF; Bert, W7JWG; Van, KE7BB; Marty, KD7LA; Karl, KA7WFR; Ray, NO7X; Dale, W7FBP; Randy, N7GFK; Susan, N7EPE; Lorna, KA7RFD; Bud, KC7PS; Bob, W7CTW and me. Oh yes we had Dan N7CLU, he is the Smokey (I like to talk CB sometimes). Everyone did just a great job. Bob, KV7F had to call in an ambulance twice, so there was no doubt that we were needed badly this year. Next year we will man every exchange point that we can get hams for and will not do the finish. Mark August 18, 1989 on your calendar for the next Hood to Coast Run.



Dale, W7FBP, Ray, NO7X and Randy, N7GFK
In The Finish-Finish Trailer



Lorna, KA7RFD and Bud, KC7PS with the
OTVARC Trailer at Finish



No the Gang's Not All Here—Just 50% of Them

Public Service Continued

Now this month, which will be last month when you read this next month. Some of the OTVARC members helped on the Portland Marathon and they were Susan, N7EPE; Lorna, KA7RFD; Ken, N7JAS; Larry, K7YBZ; Dale, W7FBP and yours truly.

Now for the next month after you read this, which will be December, we will do the Lions Phone Book pickup. It will be held in late December but I will be bugging you soon for some help.

Well I guess that is about all for this month, last month, next month and the month after that. If you have got this figured out, you're better off than I am. Have a good month!

DX For Beginners And Others

Greg, W7AGQ

For the time I've been doing this column, I have tried to keep things new and different. Sometimes, however, it's good to get back to the basics. I don't mean the listen, listen and listen basics this time, though we all need to remember that's the cardinal rule.

Let's begin at the edge. First a definition. DX simply means long distance communication. In our context it is communication for long distances on our HF (high frequency) bands 1.8 to 29 MHz (please don't split hairs and tell me 1.8 is really in the MF region). To be accurate I must say that there are several DXCC awards for your VHF, and higher, enthusiasts...6 and 2 meters as well as a satellite award. I, however, do not cover 6, 2 and satellite for a very simple reason; I don't know anything about DX on these bands.

On the subject of DXCC, what is it? This is an award (membership in a club, the DX Century Club really). It was initiated way back in 1937 by the ARRL who still administers it to this day. I said I would be back to basics....ARRL means the AMERICAN RADIO RELAY LEAGUE. To become a member of DXCC, you must apply to the ARRL and submit written confirmation of two-way communications (QSL cards) from at least 100 countries. U.S. amateurs must be a member of the ARRL to apply.

To hit on a point mentioned in an earlier column, a country is not necessarily what you learned in High School geography. For instance, Alaska and Hawaii are separate DX countries even though U.S. States. On the other hand, there are 18 separate countries

counted for the USSR (19 if you use 4K1 Russian bases, to count for Antarctica). There are even two separate DX countries located on the small island of Cyprus; 5B for Cyprus and ZC4 for British bases there.

I won't attempt to explain what is or what is not a DXCC country except to say there are rules promulgated and interpreted by the ARRL. You may get a copy of these rules together with the ARRL DXCC COUNTRIES LIST by asking for it and sending a "green stamp" (otherwise known as a dollar bill) to the League.

Besides what I call the basic DXCC award there are a number of other DXCC awards. The basic one requires QSLs from 100 countries, any band (except 30 meters) on phone or CW. Technically, that's called "mixed". There are also separate awards for all phone, all CW and all RTTY, plus one for satellite. In addition, there are awards for 160, 80, 40, 10, 6 and 2 meters. You are correct, I did not mention 20 or 15 meters. Apparently this would be too easy and no awards are listed here. Note, 10 MHz is not to be used for any DX awards (to prevent over usage of this shared band).

If you want to go all the way, you may shoot for the DX Honor Role or DX #1. The former is confirmed contacts with almost all the countries (there

Continued Page 5

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are 319 currently). DX #1 means you worked them all. Also there is the 5BAND DXCC...which, of course, means working at least 100 countries on each of five bands. Please note that while I have said "worked", what I really mean is QSLs in hand... often more difficult that just working them.

Some folks like to get there in a hurry. There are some ways to do this short of spending all your waking hours on a big rig with large, high antennas. You can get in on a DX contest... such as the CQ World Wide, held the last weekend of October this year. If you receive this a bit too late for that, look up contest information in any monthly ham magazine.

Another way to boost your totals quickly is to get in on a DX net. Beware! This is a controversial subject. Many "true" DXers think using a DX net is horrible or worse. You, however, may decide for yourself. A DX net usually has a station (often a U.S. station) acting as a net control. He or she will announce what countries are on and then stand by for a list. Many, many stations will call and then at some point the net control will say who he heard and call them in turn. If you are on the list you can call which ever station you want and try to exchange a signal report with the DX station.

What's wrong with that you say. Well for starters, the net control station may be comparatively in your backyard and easy to work....is that the sign you are a good DX operator. Also the net control has to identify you by call at some point...and the DX station can probably hear that too. In addition, to all that, when you call the DX, you will have a clear frequency which was created by something other than what you did. Often if you get the report wrong, you will be told and asked to try again. All this is too easy and cheapens the awards, say some DXers.

On the other hand there are good things to be said about a DX net. Many DX stations want to hand out contacts but get frustrated and even angry with pile ups. The only way they will work is on a net. Others like to chat with net control friends as they work down the list. Other DX operators may be saddled with a poor rig, or antenna or just be intimidated by pile ups. A net may be the answer here too. From the other hand many U.S. operators have minimum rigs and antennas and want to work some DX without spending every waking hour or possessing the patience of Job. Even for those stations that refuse to use nets, they are a valuable source of propagation information and of simply learning who's on from where. Want to use a net? The choice is yours.

Have fun and as always listen, listen and listen.

73 and 88 where appropriate

Classified Adds

Free 6' dish (government surplus)-just haul it away! Netronics Research ASCII-A2 terminal with RF modulator, power supply, assembled with all documentation, \$25. Steve Morris, NS7D 635-8771.

1981 Honda Odyssey. Good Condition. Runs Excellent. \$500—Kenwood Compact Disc Player. New in Box. Paid \$219 sell for \$100. Jon, WB7VWX 645-8553.

Free antenna, 80-10 meter verticle trap with coax. Would like a new novice to get this. Contact Walter Evans, K7NSA, 357-8560.

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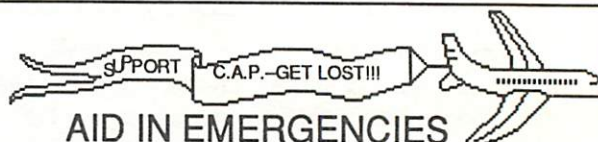
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